

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00089 210834Z

11
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W
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R 210705Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 794
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T MUSCAT 089

EXDIS

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, MASS, MU, US
SUBJECT: TOW PROGRAM: TRAINING BEGINS

REF: MUSCAT 060

1. MTT (CAPT. MERIDITH AND MSGT BATTLE) CALLED ON AMBASSADOR JAN. 20. THEY REPORTED THAT TRAINING BEGAN ON SCHEDULE THAT DATE. HOWEVER, CONTRARY TO OUR PREVIOUS UNDERSTANDING (REFTEL), CADRE OF FOUR SAF TROOPS BEING TRAINED DO NOT HAVE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE CAPABILITIES. INTERPRETING IS BEING DONE BY JORDANIAN OFFICER; MTT WILL GO SLOW AND USE GOODLY AMOUNT OF DEMONSTRATION AND REPETITION TO GET PROGRAM ACROSS, BUT THEY HAVE MISGIVINGS RE HOW INSTRUCTION MIGHT FILTER DOWN TO SUBSEQUENT GENERATIONS OF OPERATORS.

2. UP UNTIL DAY TRAINING STARTED, MTT HAD UNDERSTOOD THAT BRITISH MASTER SERGEANT POSSESSING FLUENT ARABIC WOULD ACT AS INTERFACE WITH SAF TEAM. AT LAST MOMENT, THAT PERSON PULLED OFF MISSION, HAVING STATED THAT THERE WAS "AGREEMENT" BETWEEN HMG AND USG THAT NO BRITISH WOULD BE INVOLVED. (COMMENT: WE KNOW NOTHING OF THIS AND ASSUME IT IS MISINFORMATION.)

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3. MTT PLANS TO GO AHEAD WITH TRAINING UNDER PRESENT

CONDITIONS (I.E. THROUGH JORDANIAN INTERMEDIARY).
THEY (MTT) HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THEY MIGHT BE
ASKED TO GO TO DHOFAR TO OBSERVE INITIAL TRAINING
CYCLE RUN BY SAF. (COMMENT: THIS, TOO, IS AT VARIANCE
WITH CSAF'S PREVIOUS STATEMENT THAT ALL TRAINING
WOULD TAKE PLACE IN THE NORTH. EMBASSY HAS NO PARTICULAR
OBJECTION TO MTT GOING TO DHOFAR, ALTHOUGH IT WOULD BE
UNFORTUNATE IF WORD GOT AROUND THAT U.S. MILITARY
INSTRUCTORS WERE PRESENT THERE.)
WOLLE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY TRAINING, MISSILES, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MUSCAT00089
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750022-0383
From: MUSCAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750134/aaaabdpe.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 MUSCAT 060
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <26 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TOW PROGRAM: TRAINING BEGINS
TAGS: MARR, MASS, MU, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006